

SAN DIEGO DX CLUB BULLETIN



August 2006

Cover Photo: 80 meter vertical located on the Southwestern Colorado property of SDDXC member Art Charette, K6KT.

Join us at

The SIZZLER, Aero Drive & Murphy Canyon Rd

Wednesday August 23, 2006

- Dinner, 6:00 P.M. - Meeting, 7:00 P.M



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Gavel Gab

Paul WN6K



Well has the Solace of Summer Solar Activity got you down yet? Not to worry for this too shall pass. Are your antennas been reworked and ready to go for the fast approaching contest season....that is where you will find those illusive ones that might be missing from you bands. W6YOO, Harry reports that he is shy one more band country for another battle ribbon on his DX Challenge Plaque.

Certainly hope that we will have seen a good club representation up at the Summer Bash – 2006. Are you making your final plans to attend the ARRL Southwestern Convention? The San Diego DX Club is hosting a Sunday morning breakfast and our own, N6OX, Bob will be the speaker so come one and come all to hear his tales. Newer hams will enjoy the displays and various presentations while seasoned hams will get the opportunity to greet and swap lies with old comrades once again.

As a result of some discussions on the SDDXC reflector (are you signed up – contact NZ6T, Tuck if you need help) this month's program is really going to be an informal exchange of information by a number of our members using many laptops so that we can hop about from one to another to explore the various electronic means of keeping logs of past contacts. Many thanks to the number of club members who have stepped up to the plate once again. When Montenegro Bob returns once again to the ordinary climes of San Diego, our programming should get on schedule once more.

In the meantime, keep searching the packet spots, bands and contest activities for the Illusive Ones....DX is and 73.

WN6K Paul

San Diego DX Club Policy on content of

DX Bulletin and/or E-mail Reflector

The San Diego DX Club, a group of Amateur Radio operators, interested in the art of DXing, publish a monthly newsletter, and maintains an e-mail reflector where members and officers can post information of interest to other members.

Our policy is to print and/or post only information that is related to Amateur Radio, and not items of a political or religious nature, unless it has an impact on Amateur Radio, such as antenna ordinances, etc.

If a member wishes to have printed/posted any topic that is not Amateur Radio related, they can submit a copy to the club newsletter editor, webmaster, e-mail reflector moderator or any club officer, and the matter will be discussed and decided upon by the Board of Directors.

TREASURER'S REPORT

July 31, 2006

Balance as of Jun 30, 2006: \$2,036.26
Income: None
Expenses:
Speaker's Mug: 12.94
Corp. Filing Fee: 20.00
Postage (Stamps): 46.80
TOTAL: 79.74

Balance as of Jul 31, 2006: \$1,956.52
Petty Cash: 20.00
Total Checking/Petty Cash: \$1,976.52

MEETING MINUTES

July 26, 2006

The San Diego DX Club held its regular meeting on Wednesday, July 26, 2006 at the Sizzler Restaurant, Aero Drive and Murphy Canyon Road. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by the Club President, Paul Dorey, WN6K. There were 28 members and guests present. Among the guests were (if I caught the calls correctly) KM6X, K6CUO, and KI6TIZ all of whom were welcomed warmly to the meeting.

John, K6AM presented the TOP TEN in the RTTY category with K0XB nailing down the top spot with 235. We need to get more folks participating in the digital modes.

The DX Roundtable was as usual very interesting with discussion about the two new DXCC entities, Montenegro and Swains Island. Joe, W6VNR was presented a number of contesting awards. Terry, N6CW talked about his participation in WRTC as a judge during that recent contest in Brazil. Immediate Past President Jim, W6YI, brought everyone up to date on the status of BPL in the San Diego area. Skip, W7PN, talked about his imminent departure to his new home in Wyoming. Attention was called to the upcoming SW Division Convention, September 22-24, 2006 at the Marriot Hotel in Mission Valley. Pat, WA6MHZ stated that in addition to being in charge of the Flea Market, that he would be presenting a technical forum on the restoration of older radio equipment, i.e. boat anchors.

PROGRAM:

The evening's program was presented by Secretary/Treasurer Harry, W6YOO on the Radio Society of Great Britain's Islands on the Air (IOTA) program. IOTA has been around since the early sixties and involves contacting and confirming by QSL any of the 1200 islands or island groups worldwide. Like DXCC, awards begin at the 100 level with certificates and plaques being awarded up to including 1000+ islands.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
HARRY A. HODGES, W6YOO
Secretary/Treasurer



THE SDDXC TOP 10

John Barcroft K6AM

TOTAL COUNTRIES WORKED
ON RTTY



8/06	8/05	CALL	ZNS	C-D	CFM	WKD	CHG
1.	-	K0XB		280	282	289	NEW
2.	1.	W6KUT	40	190	190	243	-
3.	2.	W6YOO	38	233	235	235	+6
4.	3.	N7CW		90	90	217	-
5.	4.	W6CN		173	176	185	-
6.	5.	N6ND		43	43	176	-
7.	7.	N7TY	19	103	103	159	+25
8.	-	N6CW	36	45	45	144	NEW
9.	6.	KY6LA		?	?	135	-
10.	8.	K6XT	36	?	?	132	-

A bit of a shakeup as newcomer K0XB debuts at number 1 with a whopping 289 worked! There's plenty of new ones out there for the rest of us, so give the digital modes a try. RTTY is becoming more popular all the time. The advent of PSK32 and some other systems have really ignited a surge of interest. The old 60 WPM baudot mode is now heard mostly only on contest weekends.

New software is being introduced all the time. MMTTY is a good one when used with Writelog and a sound blaster card. Most of the expeditions are now doing a fair amount of RTTY for The Deserving. We'll be looking for many more entries next year in this fun but under-represented category.

Each month, we will publish a top ten list for one of the lesser recognized but hard won categories. Coming up next, phone and CW. Please send me your totals for each band and mode throughout the year and you will be listed in coming months. My email address is k6am at arrl.net or bring 'em to the meeting.

Don't forget to sign up for the

SW Division Convention!

Check the Web site for further information:

<http://www.sandarc-conv2006.org/>

A VISIT TO THE “COLORADO DIVISION” OF THE SAN DIEGO DX CLUB

By Jim, K6ZH



My wife Joan, N6KIM, and I recently spent a week in Southwestern Colorado, following our successful descent into, and ascent out of the Grand Canyon. That was an amazing experience, but not the subject of this article.

We stayed at a timeshare in Pagosa Springs, CO, not far from Durango (yes, we rode the train – “is the Pope Catholic?”). That also meant that we were close to Ignacio, CO, the home (address-wise) to K0YW – Bruce Clark, ex-K6JYO; and K6XT – Art Charette. Bruce and his wife, Patti bailed out of San Diego County several years ago and set up shop in Southwestern Colorado; Art & Maureen recently decided to follow suit. They just formally moved in this year. So, Joan and I spent most of a day with the 4 of them – seeing their lovely homes, and touring the ham shacks and antenna farms.

Art & Maureen bought a classic “home on the prairie,” on about 40 acres, roughly 10 miles east of Ignacio – nice piece of ground with no end of possibilities for ham radio antennas. The 80 meter vertical is already up and Art reports that “it’s awesome.” And nearby is a very large collection of aluminum, much of which was in the air (and on the air) in Ramona – waiting to be ready for action again.

Bruce & Patti designed their own home, a.k.a. the Jawbone Ranch, on the highest point of a gorgeous 160 acre parcel of land about 3 miles east of Ignacio. It’s a lovely home with a well appointed ham shack. And nearby is Bruce’s fabulous collection of restored “boat anchor” receivers. There’s something in there for any of us more “senior” hams – from a Collins 75A4 to a Hammerlund SuperPro! Adjacent to the house is a large (I mean large) garage / workshop. Bruce keeps himself very busy with a zillion projects in there. The K0YW antennas are, I think one would say, very competitive in the DX and contest world – four very tall towers with everything from 160 meters to 2 meters. AND there’s a **30 foot dish** in the backyard – used for chasing 1296 MHz moonbounce! Bruce has about 60 countries worked on this mode – one of the highest totals in the world. He has also worked a LOT of stuff on 6 meters – grids and countries. With 11 elements at 100 feet, it’s easy to understand why K0YW is one of the first signals we hear when 6 meters opens between So. Cal. and Colorado!

The visit was capped off with a great dinner at an Indian casino in Ignacio. Bruce and Art are eager to host friends from their SD DX Club days, so plan to stop by. In fact, Rick, N6ND, and Myrna were there soon after us. One thing to be sure of: neither K0YW nor K6XT will be the weak ones in the pileup!



Art, K6XT, and Mau-reen in front of their “home on the prairie” about 10 miles east of Ignacio, CO

K6XT’s collection of aluminum from Ramona – waiting to be “on the air” in Colorado.



K0YW, K6XT, and K6ZH during Jim and Joan’s recent visit to Southwestern Colorado



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San Diego Dx Club Bulletin
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